

JAPAN CHRISTIAN ACTIVITY NEWS

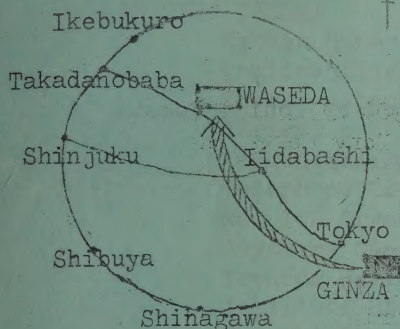
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coming next issue, a new masthead

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SAYONARA, GINZA

from John M. Noyama



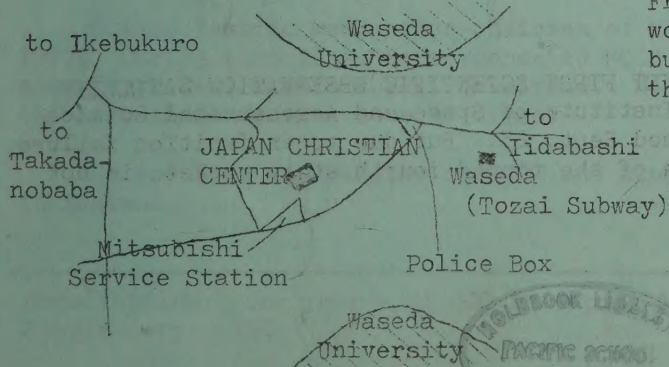
One day Stan Manierre, NCC associate general secretary, rushed back from lunch, exclaiming, "Whew! There are gaijin (foreigners) all over." To which our office girl responded: "Aren't you one of them?" "Oh, I forgot" was his answer. At any rate, Ginza is full of gaijin. There used to be a saying, "If you see a man with sun glasses carrying cameras, take him for a Japanese. In Ginza, it should be "take him for a tourist gaijin." Ginza is the center of Tokyo, which is the center of Japan. Not only gaijin, but all the top modes in fashion are there. If you don't know what the new mid-dress looks like, just take a walk at lunchtime in Ginza. Within a few minutes one will walk by. Department stores,

banks, post offices, stationery stores, restaurants, even beerhalls and bars are abundant. Because it is within walking distance of the National Diet, demonstrators opposing the Yasukuni Shrine Nationalization bill will start from here.

Twenty-five years ago, the Kyo Bun Kwan Building was a mere skeleton after the wartime bombings. But as it put on flesh and bones, so the churches and Christian work recovered from their physical and spiritual wreckage. Many important decisions relating to this were made here. Many people, both Japanese and gaijin, have loved this place.

The time has come to wipe away such sentimentality and to initiate a new epoch in Waseda. Although Waseda is a place remote from the cultural benefits that surround the Ginza office (you can even park your car on the street there) for the first time in Christian history in Japan, a real "Japan Christian Center" is built, where national headquarters of major denominations and Christian organizations live together. The whole second floor of the new building will house the NCC Offices. One thing that you cannot see in Ginza will be visible in the vicinity of the new Center. The whole campus of Waseda University, one of the oldest and most prominent private schools in Japan--whose recently elected president is a leading Lutheran laymen, Dr. Sukenaga Murai--is within calling distance. One is certain to have frequent opportunities to enjoy student demonstrations, accompanied often by the counter force of the riot police.

<div> <div>MASS COMMUNICATION</div> <div>CENTER</div> <div>(AVACO)</div> </div>	+	Baptist Domei, Edu. Assn., National YMCA
		National YMCA
		IBC/COC, WSCF, Tokyo Kyoku, Korean Church
		Kyodan
		Kyodan
		NCC
		YMCA Press, P.R. Office Book Store



From the place where the flowers of today's world are blooming to the place where the buds for tomorrow's world are nourished... this should symbolize our move.

NATIONAL CHRISTIAN COUNCIL

Japan Christian Center

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Division of Education: 203-0731

HEADLINE-MAKING EVENTS

... compiled by Ichiji Yokota

SOHYO (GENERAL COUNCIL OF TRADE UNIONS IN JAPAN) ANNOUNCED plans for its fall struggle: 1) To conduct a strike Oct. 17 to capture the right-to-strike for unions in government offices; 2) To carry out a one-day joint struggle with non-Sohyo unions and progressive organizations.

SUSPECTS IN THE EMBEZZLEMENT OF ¥1,900 MILLION FROM the Fuji Bank were arrested, one in Hong Kong, one in Paris.

YOKOZUNA TAMANUMI WON HIS FIRST TITLE SINCE BECOMING Yokozuna at the Tokyo Autumn Sumo Tournament, scoring 14 wins, 1 loss. Sekiwake Daikirin will be promoted to Ozeki.

GOVERNMENT APPROVED FARE-INCREASING FOR 14 major railroads but postponed private subway increase.

TOKYO METROPOLITAN POLICE ARRESTED KATSUMI KANAYAMA, Chukaku student faction chairman, and other 5 students in connection with the torture-murder of Ebihara, member of rival student group, Aug. 3. The TMP finds from their explanation that the reason Ebihara was killed was because students did not know how to treat him after he was seriously injured.

AMU4S ROCKET FIRST SCIENTIFIC OBSERVATION SATELLITE of Todai Institute of Space and Aeronautical Science was launched Sept. 25. But due to an ignition failure, separation of the topped fourth stage rocket did not take place.

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KYODAN POSTPONES GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Rejecting two proposals that would have involved a change in officers, the standing committee of the United Church of Christ, in a crucial session on Mon. and Tue., Oct. 6-7, chose to postpone the General Assembly scheduled for the end of October and to continue for the time being with the present standing committee and officers.

Two major issues faced the standing committee as it prepared to convene: the question of whether or not to hold the biennial General Assembly, when five of sixteen districts had not yet elected delegates, and the question of holding the examinations for ministerial candidates, deferred since last spring.

To give adequate opportunity for views on these two issues to be aired, the standing committee met first in a kondankai (discussion session) to which outside observers were not admitted. At this time, the two alternate bills proposed by Moderator Kiyoshi Ii (see JCAN, Sept. 25) were subjected to analysis and criticism. When these plans did not prove acceptable, Vice Moderator Mitsuho Yoshida introduced a third proposal--that the General Assembly be (continued on page 7)

BISHOP YASHIRO DIES

Rev. Michael Hinsuke Yashiro, the Primate Bishop of Nippon Sei Kokai (The Anglican Episcopal Church) passed away the morning of Oct. 10, at a hospital in Kobe. He had been hospitalized for the past few month because of cancer. The memorial service were held at St. Michael Cathedral, Kobe at 1:00 p.m. Oct. 13.

Bishop Yashiro was a vice-chairman of NCCJ from its founding in 1948 until 1967. During this time, he represented NCCJ at the first Assembly WCC in 1948 along with Rev. Michio Kozaki, chairman. He also attended EACC meetings and the Lambeth Conference several times.

He was born in Hokkaido in 1900 and studied theology at Cambridge University in England.

KOREA-JAPAN EVANGELICAL LEADERS ISSUE STATEMENT

A group of 15 Korean and 15 Japanese church leaders, continuing a fellowship initiated at the Singapore Evangelism Conference sponsored by Billy Graham, in 1968, have issued a statement outlining their desire and plans for cooperation, following a conference in Tokyo, Oct. 1-5.

Rev. Akira Hatori is chairman and Rev. Noboru Hara is executive secretary of the Japan Singapore Fellowship Committee, host to the conference. The statement was read to 300 persons from many different churches and Christian groups in Japan, who were invited to meet the Korean guests, Oct. 5, at Yodobashi Church (United Church of Christ), Tokyo.

The statement states that participants took part as individuals, not as denominational representatives. At the beginning of the conference, it says, Japanese representatives expressed sincere pain and regret over their country's past errors, committed against Korea and her churches. "We together offered an earnest prayer not to repeat the same error," it says.

The statement confirms "the call of both churches to find the way of reconciliation between Korea and Japan in the cross of Jesus Christ, in the midst of these pains and regrets, looking forward and forgetting the past."

Special reference is made to the anxiety felt with regard to "the danger of the present unscriptural trend of various kinds of modern theologies and the need for active proclamation of evangelical Biblical faith."

The statement further speaks of the "urgency of cooperative enterprise by the churches in both countries against communism and towards social and religious problems which confront the church of Christ in Asia." The "against communism" wording was inserted after considerable debate, in which Japanese delegates at first asked that it be omitted but later accepted its inclusion.

Concrete proposals for cooperation include: the exchange of personnel in various categories, translation and publication of theological and Christian literature, cooperative efforts in study, rural evangelical and medical care. Specific suggestions were also lifted up with regard to ways in which Korean and Japanese churches can fulfill their responsibilities toward all Asia, including Asia-wide information exchange, education and training, cooperative funding, etc. An Inter-Coordination Committee will be established to follow-up on the suggestions. A Second Conference will be held in Seoul, Korea in May of next year.

100 CANDLES TIMES TWO

The greatest contribution that Christian education has made to the world of education in Japan is in education for women. Pioneers in women's education were Ferris Jogakuin, founded by Mary Kidder, a Dutch Reformed missionary, in 1870, and Joshi Gakuin, started as a tutorial school for homemaking by Mrs. Carrothers in the same year. Both deserve to be known as pacesetters in women's education in Japan.

One of the most prestigious schools in Yokohama, Ferris Jo Gakuin has 2,000 students enrolled on its four campuses--college, junior college, and senior and junior high schools. Many of Ferris's 8,000 graduates, as well as many friends, celebrated the 100th anniversary at the Yokohama Bunka Taiikukan, Oct. 5.

Ferris's counterpart in Tokyo, Joshi Gakuin, will celebrate its 100th anniversary at the Shinjuku Koseinenkin Kaikan Oct. 27. Joshi Gakuin has junior and senior high schools, with about 1,500 students and some 6,000 alumnae.

ECUMENICAL MUSIC FESTIVAL ON OCT. 18

Sunday, Oct. 18, the third Church Music Festival will be held at St. Mary's Cathedral in Tokyo.

Choirs from the Catholic Church, Anglican Church, Lutheran Church and the Tokyo district of the United Church of Christ in Japan will sing.

The concert will begin at 2:30. There is no admission charge. In view of the standing-room crowds at the previous two concerts, in spite of the Cathedral's large seating capacity, persons are advised to go early for seats. The address of the Cathedral is 16-15 Sekiguchi 3-chome, Bunkyo-ku. The phone number is 941-3029.

TELEPHONE COUNSELLING TO BEGIN

The telephone call that may be a call of life or of death is the heart of the Inochi No Denwa program, a telephone counselling service to be inaugurated Friday, Oct. 16, with an organizing meeting to be held from 6:30 to 9:00 at Wesley Hall, Aoyama Gakuin, Tokyo.

Some one hundred persons and eight organizations have expressed an interest in the telephone ministry. The most notable development of this type has been Life Line, a service originated in Australia under the direction of the Rev. Dr. Alan Walker. A movie on "Life Line" will be shown at the Oct. 16 meeting, to which interested persons are invited to attend.

CONCERT SERIES INTRODUCES NEW ICU ORGAN

International Christian University is sponsoring a series of organ concerts to introduce the new pipe organ installed in the International Christian University Church on the campus in Mitaka. Built by Rieger-Organs, of Schwarzach, Austria, the organ, which has three manuals and 36 stops, is said to be one of the finest imported into Japan.

Miss Yuko Hayashi will play at the Dedication Concert, Oct. 11 at 4:00 p.m. Miss Hayashi, internationally known organ artist and teacher, and chairman of the organ faculty at the New England Conservatory, Boston, is visiting professor of music at ICU this fall. She was formerly organist with NHK and performed frequently with the NHK Symphony Orchestra.

The organ was purchased as a church-conducted project in memory of the late Mrs. Misa Togasaki. It will be dedicated in religious services at 10:30 a.m. Sunday morning, Oct. 11 when ICU Church will formally give the organ to the university.

The following lecture and public concerts have been announced:

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|--------------------------|--|
| Oct. 13, Tue. 7:00 p.m. | An illustrated, demonstrated lecture by Josef von Glatter-Götz, president, Rieger-Organs, on "Architecture, Acoustics and Organs." |
| Oct. 14, Wed., 7:00 p.m. | Organist: Yuko Hayashi; the Heinrich Schütz-Choir, Yumiko Tanno, Director. |
| Oct. 16, Fri. 7:00 p.m. | Organists: Hisao Mabuchi, Misako Sato |

ICU is located at 10-2 Osawa 3-chome, Mitaka, 15 minutes by taxi or bus from the south side of the Mitaka Station on the Chuo Line.

TOWARDS UNIFORM TRANSCRIPTIONS OF BIBLICAL PROPER NAMES

by Bernadin Schneider, O.F.M., Studium Biblicum Franciscanum, Tokyo

The Interconfessional Committee on Bible Translation Terminology has been meeting regularly since it was set up jointly by the Board of Directors of the Japan Bible Society and the National Conference of Catholic Bishops in May, 1969. The committee comprises twelve members, half of whom are Protestant, half, Catholic, from Tokyo and various other parts of Japan.

The first general area of translation terminology studied was that of New Testament proper names. At the August 27 meeting the general principles to be followed in this area were finally agreed upon, leaving only a small number of especially difficult individual cases yet to settle.

One principle agreed upon is to adopt that form of a biblical name now in common general use in the Japanese language. Thus Ajia (Asia) will be preferred to the Ajiya, Kipurosu (Cyprus) to Kupuro, Farao (Pharao) to Paro. In some cases the biblical form in general use among Protestants has, over the years, become the form in common profane use too, as in the case of Davide (David). This form is now also widely used among Catholics instead of one of the older forms still in use among them--Davido or Dabido even though do (as also to) would be more consonant with general Japanese usage for the transcription of a final "d" (or "t") than is de (or te).

Whether the form Petero (Peter) in use among Protestants could be considered a parallel to Dabide is not yet settled. In this case, in contrast to the widespread adoption of the form Dabide, very few Catholic writers have felt the need or inclination to relinquish the form Petero, more congenial to modern Japanese usage in the transcription of foreign names. As for less well-known names, the preference of do and to over de and te has been agreed upon. Examples would be Kedoron (Cedron) instead of Kederon, Rusutora (Lystra) instead of Rusutera.

Another conformance to modern usage in transcription was the decision to transcribe the Greek syllables pha, phi, phe, pho, as pronounced, i.e., as fa, fi, fe, fo, instead of pa, pi, pe, po; thus Sutefano (Stephen), Firipi (Philippi), Efeso (Ephesus), Rufo(su) (Rufus), rather than Sutepano, Piripi, Epeso, Ruposu. At least 38 of the total 562 New Testament proper names contain such syllables.

The last mentioned name, Rufo(su) highlights another principle. Although modern transcription of Greek words ending in os (in the nominative) transcribes the final "s" as su, the Bible Society translation usage has been to do this only in the case of short names such as that of Rufus (Greek: Rouphos). It was thought best to respect the Japanese scriptural tradition of generally dropping the final "s". Thus Kirisuto (Christ) and Pauro (Paul) will not be changed to Kirisutosu and Paurosus.

The form to be adopted for the name Jesus is no doubt the most difficult problem. The most common form is Iesu. The Catholic form is Iezusu. The Greek Orthodox form is Iisusu. By modern transcription principles it would be Iesusu or Esusu (as Jerusalem is Erusaremu). This case is yet to be decided, though some Catholic scholars have begun to use the prevailing form Iesu.

From the next meeting on, study will begin on the proper names of the Old Testament. The problems there involved are perhaps more numerous, but should be less difficult to solve because of less emotional repercussions. (continued)

TOWARDS UNIFORM TRANSCRIPTIONS OF BIBLICAL PROPER NAMES (continued)

Immediately preceding the August Translation Terminology Committee meeting, the first meeting of the similarly constituted joint Executive Committee nominated to plan and execute a new Common Bible Translation was held. This project, after a year's study, was recently approved of by the General Board of the Japan Bible Society and the Conference of Catholic Bishops in Japan. Both committees will meet next in October.

EDUCATION PRE- AND POST-WAR IS INSTITUTE CONCERN

"Pre- and Post-War Trends in Japanese Education" is the title of one of two lectures to be delivered by Pres. Takeji Hayashi, Miyagi University of Education, at the Sixth Annual Institute of Christian Education, being held at Karuizawa, Nagano Ken, from 2:00 p.m. Thurs., Nov. 12 to 11:00 a.m. Sat. Nov. 14.

Meeting under the theme, "Considering Japanese Education," the Institute will, according to Miss Teruko Mizutani, secretary, NCC Division of Christian Education, bring together those concerned with and those actually involved in the current education ferment.

Dean "Bill" Yanagihara, St. Paul's (Rikkyo) University Liberal Arts Department, will develop the subject, "The Education Process and Christian Mission in the World." Mrs. Shinko Yamaya, one of the mothers involved in the study of how the past, and particularly World War II, is treated in school textbooks, will present materials discovered in the research. The study has been published as Kyō-kasho o kangaeru, by the United Church of Christ in Japan Board of Publication.

William B. Kennedy, World Council of Churches Executive secretary of Education, will participate with views on education from his perspective.

In an experimental approach, the scheduling of speakers and meeting format will be decided by the group itself in on-the-spot planning sessions.

The Institute is open to any persons interested in education. Application and registration and materials fee of ¥2,000 (non-refundable) should be sent by Oct. 31, 1970 to: 6th Annual Christian Education Institute, NCC Division of Christian Education, 551 Totsuka-machi 1-chome, Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo 160.

RETIREMENT OF TAKESHI SAWADA--By Ichiji Yokota

Takeshi Sawada, 66, NCC secretary of finance, who has been serving the ecumenical movement for more than thirty years, will retire the end of October for reasons of health.

Sawada was born in Nagoya. After graduation from the social work department of Kwansei Gakuin University, he worked at the Gifu Nursing School for one year. In 1933, he joined the staff of the Nihon Kirisutokyo Renmei, predecessor to the present NCC. In the year that the United Church of Christ was organized, he transferred to it, with responsibility for finances. When the NCC was organized in 1948, Sawada was invited into its organization.

Along with serving as accountant for each division of the NCC, he has been secretary of the Visitation Evangelism Committee and a trustee of Nihon Rengo Kyorei Kai (Christian Endeavor). Many people will miss Sawada's familiar figure.

KYODAN POSTPONES GENERAL ASSEMBLY (continued from page 3)

temporarily postponed, the present officers and standing committee continue to serve, and steps be taken to reform the Kyodan, with wide discussion of the main issues in hopes that a General Assembly could be called before the end of March.

With a considerable measure of opinion and energy having been expressed in the kondankai, the standing committee met in formal session on Tuesday, with 30 observers who were granted the right to speak. Two persons each were present from fifteen organizations, including both poles in the Tokyo Union Theological Seminary dispute and special interest groups that have sprung up during the past year over the issues of Expo '70 and the Kyodan Extraordinary General Assembly last fall.

Yoshida introduced the three bills. Bill A, to hold the Assembly, was voted down. It was moved that Bill C be taken up before Bill B, and this was done. After considerable discussion, Bill C was passed by a vote of 14 to 3.

The bill states that:

- 1) postponement of the General Assembly is unavoidable;
- 2) the action is not merely to postpone the General Assembly but at the same time to call for a special meeting of the standing executive committee to prepare a sohkatsu (summation that incorporates evaluation of past events and a perspective on the future);
- 3) the standing committee is to convene again in February to consider the possibility of convening the General Assembly before the end of March;
- 4) a plan for firming up the Kyodan is to be drawn up and distributed to all churches and districts for discussion.

On the matter of ministerial examinations usually given in the spring of each year but not conducted yet in 1970 because of the unrest within the Kyodan, the present system has been under attack at several points: 1) what it really means to "become a minister" in the Kyodan; 2) what are the standards by which a candidate qualifies, and what is the basis of these standards. Recommendations have already been drawn up looking toward the dissolution of one of the two orders in the ministry, provided for in the Kyodan Constitution, but there is pressure to push the question much further, into the whole issue involving what a minister's position should be with regard to the Kyodan Confession of Faith. There are also objections to the practice of requiring that candidates have the recommendation of their seminary.

There was considerable debate between seminary student observers, members of the ministerial qualifications committee and standing committee members but the meeting was adjourned with no solution having been reached.

HARPER'S AKAISHI TO SPEAK TO CHRISTIAN PUBLISHERS

Takashi Akaishi (46) vice president of Harper & Row, publishers, and son of Rev. Yoshiaki Akaishi of Kasugai Kyodan Church, Aichi Prefecture, will speak at a special seminar of Christian publishers Nov. 19-20 at Tozanso.

Akaishi is visiting Japan en route to Hong Kong where he will lecture at an EACC publishing seminar Nov. 20-28. Akaishi graduated from Japan Theological Seminary and San Francisco Theological Seminary, San Anselmo, California. He joined the John Knox Press, then moved to Harper & Row as chief editor of religious books. He has just been named vice president of Harper & Row.